



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants: Chet M. Crump et al. Docket BA-00117
 Serial No.: 09/459,522 Group: 3761
 Filed: December 13, 1999 Examiner: Darwin P. Erezo
 For: Endotracheal Catheter and Date: November 13, 2001
 Manifold Assembly with Improved
 Valve

Amendment – A

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and in response to the Office Action mailed June 6, 2001, the following amendments and remarks are submitted for your consideration.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

3. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein the flap is configured such that at least one protrusion on a proximal surface of the flap engages the [distal end of the] catheter.

6. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 5 wherein the flap is generally disk-shaped and has at least one projection extending proximally outwardly therefrom [to increase the diameter of the disk].

9. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 8 further comprising a collar disposed in the manifold, and wherein the [orifice] aperture is formed in the collar.

15. (Amended) A respiratory suction apparatus comprising:

a suction catheter having a distal end for suctioning secretions;